

Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 EB-11 SIL-01 LAB-06 COME-00

AID-20 NIC-01 SY-10 DRC-01 /206 W

----- 021852

R 162150Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6581

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB

SUBJ: TRAVEL CHILEAN GUILD LEADERS

ATTN: ARA/LA/PDC O'GRADY (PASS TO AFL-CIO)

REF: SANTIAGO 5621 AND MEXICO 8592

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1. FRONT PAGE "EL MERCURIO" STORY NOV 16 REPORTS UPCOMING

VISIT TO U.S. AND INFO POSTS' COUNTRIES OF CHILEAN GUILD LEADERS TEAM INCLUDING FOLLOWING: LEON VILARIN, PRES. NATIONAL TRUCK OWNERS CONFED (TEAM LEADER); JOSE JOSE CASTILLO GUTIERREZ (ACCORDING OUR RECORDS DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL UNION OF "PAPELERA" WORKERS AND PRES COMMITTEE FREE GUILDS OF PAPELERA - PAPER MANUFACTURING) MERCURIO LISTS AS "WORKER DELEGATE" OF TEAM; ULPiano VILLALOBOS, CAMPESINO DELEGATE; MARIO SALGADO, EMPLOYER REPRESENTATIVE; LUIS SANZI, SMALL INDUSTRIES REPRESENTATIVE; ADRIANA BENITEZ DE VILARIN, REPRESENTING CHILEAN WOMEN; DANIEL GALLEGUILLLOS, PRESS REPRESENTATIVE.

2. IN NOV 15 PRESS CONFERENCE VILARIN STATED PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO EXPLAIN REALITIES OF CHILE. HE INDICATED THAT GROUP HAD NOT RECEIVED VISAS FOR MEXICO BUT HOPED THAT MEXICAN AMBASSADOR GONZALO MARTINEZ CORBALA WILL (SOON) "GIVE US AN ANSWER." HOWEVER, IF MEXICO DOES NOT AUTHORIZE OUR ENTRY INTO HER TERRITORY, WE WILL NOT INSIST."

3. GOC HAS APPARENTLY DECIDED TO NOT ALLOW VISA PROBLEM TO BE CONVERTED INTO MAJOR ISSUE. FONMINISTRY SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF NOV 15 THAT VISAS HAD INDEED BEEN DENIED AND THAT MEXICANS HAD ASKED THAT REQUEST NOT BE PRESSED. SOURCE ATTRIBUTED VISA DENIAL TO DOMESTIC LEFTIST PRESSURES UPON GOM. IN APPARENT EFFORT TO COMPLY WITH MEXICAN REQUEST, UNDER SEC FOREIGN RELATIONS CARVALLO PUBLICLY WASHED HANDS OF ISSUE BY NOTING TO PRESS THAT GUILD GROUP NOT AN OFFICIAL CHILEAN DELEGATION AND THAT ANY PROBLEMS RELATING TO VISAS MUST BE RESOLVED BETWEEN GROUP'S MEMBERSHIP AND MEXICAN GOVT.

4. CARVALLO ALSO REFERRED TO REPORTS OF POSSIBLE VIOLENCE DIRECTED AT COMMITTEE SHOULD IT VISIT MEXICO. SAME LINE GIVEN TO PRESS BY GOM SECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OFFICIAL RAUL VALDEZS CURRENTLY VISITING CHILE. VALDES TOLD PRESS THAT GOM FEARFUL THAT DEMONSTRATIONS OR POSSIBLE ATTACKS UPON CHILEAN GROUP WOULD DAMAGE CORDIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. HE STATED THAT NON-ISSUANCE OF VISA "FOR NOW" IN NO WAY CONSTITUTED UNFRIENDLY ACT OF GOM TOWARDS GOC.

5. NO FIRM ITINERARY, BUT GROUP DEPARTING CHILE NOW 17 AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RETURNING ABOUT DEC. 15. VILARIN ESTIMATED TWO DAYS IN EACH COUNTRY EXCEPT SPAIN (SIX). GROUPS ALSO TO PARTICIPATE IN LATIN AMERICAN CONGRESS OF SMALL INDUSTRY IN BOGOTA NOV 27.

6. SAME ARTICLE REPORTED THAT A DELEGATION OF PORT AND MARITIME UNION LEADERS WILL SOON TRAVEL TO EUROPE TO "PREVENT A BOYCOTT OF CARGO DESTINED FOR OUR COUNTRY."

7. COMMENT. FYI TRUCK OWNERS CONFEDERATION LED BY VILARIN
WAS ONE OF MOST AGGRESSIVE ORGANIZATIONS IN OCT-NOV 1972 AND
AUG-SEPT 1973 NATIONAL SHUTDOWNS.
THOMPSON

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